

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HELSIN 00231 051531Z

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ACTION STR-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

OMB-01 OIC-02 /102 W

----- 037360

R 051430Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8264

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, FI

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS: TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

REF: STATE 019287

1. SUMMARY: APPROPRIATE FINNISH OFFICIALS WERE
INFORMED OF IMPORTANCE US ATTACHES TO TRADE NEGOTIA-
TIONS COMMITTEE (TNC) MEETING TO BEGIN IN GENEVA
ON FEB 1. THEY REPLIED THAT FINLAND SHARES THIS
VIEW AND THAT FINLAND IS ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN SERIOUS
PREPARATIONS FOR FEBRUARY MEETING AND FOR MULTI-
LATERAL TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS (MTN).

2. AS REQUESTED REFTEL, ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR
OUTLINED ON JANUARY29 TO AMBASSADOR ARVO AYTKONEN,
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PAGE 02 HELSIN 00231 051531Z

HEAD OF FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND

COMMERCIAL POLICY, IMPORTANCE USG ATTACHES TO FEB 11 MEETING OF TNC. COUNSELOR FOLLOWED UP BY MEETING ON FEB 5 WITH RICHARD MULLER, RYTKONEN'S SUBORDINATE, HEAD OF GATT (INTER ALIA) DIVISION IN E/C POLICY OFFICE.

3. BOTH OFFICIALS SAID FINLAND AND OTHER NORDIC COUNTRIES SHARE US VIEWS ON IMPORTANCE OF TNC MEETING AND ARE SENDING LARGE (IN NORDIC CONTEXT) DELEGATIONS HEADED BY HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS. FOR INSTANCE FINLAND'S DELEGATION WILL BE HEADED BY RYTKONEN, WITH FINLAND'S AMBASSADOR TO GENEVA-BASED UN-AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS, KLAUS A. SAHlgren, AS HIS DEPUTY. OTHER FINNISH DELEGATES WILL BE MULLER HIMSELF AND MR. ERIC HAGFORS AND MR. MATTI PULLINEN OF HIS DIVISION. EXPERTS FROM OTHER MINISTRIES AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WILL BE BROUGHT TO GENEVA AS NEEDED.

4. MULLER SAID THAT FINNISH PREPARATIONS FOR FEBRUARY TNC MEETING AND MTN ITSELF ARE UNDER DAY-TO-DAY DIRECTION OF BARON KAARLO YRJO-KOSKINEN, RYTKONEN'S DEPUTY. MANY EXPERTS FROM OTHER MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES ARE PARTICIPATING. HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT A NORDIC MEETING IN PREPARATION FOR TNC MEETING ENDED ON FEBRUARY 4 AND THAT ALL NORDIC COUNTRIES ARE TAKING THE MEETING AND THE MTN SERIOUSLY.

KREHBIEL

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